

Standard 8-1: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the settlement of South Carolina and the United States by Native Americans, Europeans, and Africans.

8-1.5 Summarize the significant changes to South Carolina's government during the colonial period, including the proprietary regime and the period of royal government, and the significance of the Regulator movement. (G, P)

Taxonomy Level: B 2 Understanding / Conceptual Knowledge

Previous/future knowledge:

In 3rd grade, students summarized the contributions of settlers in South Carolina under the Lords Proprietors and the Royal colonial government, including the English from Barbados and the other groups who made up the diverse European population of early South Carolina (3-2.6).

In United States History, students will be expected to summarize the distinct characteristics of each colonial region in the settlement and development of America, including religious, social, political, and economic differences (USHC-1.1).

It is essential for students to know:

South Carolina's government became more democratic during the colonial period. South Carolina began as a **proprietary colony**. In a proprietary colony an individual or group of people receive ownership of the land from the king. The Proprietors charged settlers a quitrent on the land and in turn had to make payments to the king. At first, the Proprietors and the Carolina elite had greater representation in the government than did the common people. The Great Council decided that a majority of each group in the colonies – the representatives of the Proprietors, the colonial elite and the common people - should have equal voice in the government. Ten years later a separate house was established as the Commons House of Assembly to represent the people. However there continued to be tension between the colonists and the Proprietors. The colonists felt neglected by the absentee landlord who collected rent but offered them little protection. The Proprietors thought that the colonists were disobedient.

The Council protested to the king about the neglect of the proprietors and appealed to the king to make Carolina a **royal colony** whose governor would be appointed by the king rather than proprietors. The king reached a financial agreement with the Proprietors and Carolina became a royal colony and was split into North and South Carolina. South Carolina enjoyed some advantages as a result of becoming a royal colony. The English government increased subsidies for naval stores and allowed merchants to sell rice directly to foreign countries. The English government also authorized the establishment of townships in the Upcountry and many settlers moved there to establish subsistence farms.

As settlers moved inland, the Upcountry's white population outnumbered that of the Lowcountry but the Upcountry had much less representation in the Assembly. There was little law enforcement in the Upcountry of South Carolina. Settlers took matters of law into their own hands in what was called the **Regulator movement**. Because there were no courts, the Regulators operated as vigilantes. The guilty were hanged or beaten to death without trial. This movement grew out of control and innocent people were hurt. Eventually the government of South Carolina came to the aid of the Upcountry settlers by setting up seven circuit courthouses around the colony to provide justice, law and order in the region.

It is not essential for students to know:

Students do not need to know specific leaders or dates of the regimes or individual names of the Lords Proprietors.

Assessment guidelines:

Appropriate assessments will require students to **summarize** the significant changes to South Carolina's government during the colonial period. Students should also be able to **compare** the proprietary regime and the period of royal government. They should be able to **explain** the significance of the Regulator movement in colonial South Carolina.

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